

**U.S. Department of Labor
Office of Youth Opportunities (OYO)
Youth Opportunity Grants (YOG) Technical Assistance Update**

*Published bi-weekly by the Office of Youth Services/Office of Youth Opportunities,
U.S. Department of Labor, (202) 693-3037*

**Volume 2, Number 6
November 2, 2001**

The U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) Office of Youth Services/Office of Youth Opportunities (OYO) brings you the Youth Opportunity Grant (YOG) Technical Assistance Update. On a bi-weekly basis, the update will provide important announcements and information for YOG sites, partners, and coaches.

Please let us know if these updates are useful to you and how it might be improved to better serve your needs. If you have information or items to contribute, or topics that you would like see covered, please contact Susan Rosenblum, Office of Youth Opportunities, at srosenblum@doleta.gov or (202) 693-3597.

Film Contest Announced: YO! Sites are invited to submit up to two (2) youth produced videos by March 1, 2002 to the national Office of Youth Services, ETA/DOL for a national competition. Films can be entered in each of two categories: My Community and General Open Competition. Award winners will be announced at the 3rd year Youth Opportunity Grant meeting in May in Tampa, Florida. Entry rules and application will be sent to all YO! Project Directors and Federal Project. This contest is for YO! sites only. For more information, please contact Anne Stom at astom@doleta.gov

Fall edition of our Youth Connections West: The latest edition of Region Six's Youth Connections West is now available at: <http://www.doleta.gov/regions/reg06/documents/oct.pdf>

Chao Appoints 15 Members to Youth Advisory Council. U.S. Secretary of Labor Elaine L. Chao appointed 15 members to the Youth Advisory Council to the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities. Through the President's Task Force, the Council will advise the Secretary of Labor and her designees, including the Office of the 21st Century Workforce and the Office of Disability Employment Policy, on education, training, employment, health, and rehabilitation and independent living issues affecting young people with disabilities. In addition, the Youth Advisory Council will make recommendations to increase positive employment outcomes for young people with disabilities. For a complete list of the appointees please visit <http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/opa/opa2001376.htm>

Media Library of Occupational Video Clips Available: The New Jersey Center for Occupational Employment Information is developing a multi-media library of career videos whose purpose is to enhance or heighten interest in career exploration via a video tour using attractive and informative clips. To date, 289 occupations organized around the 16 Perkins Career Clusters have

been filmed, edited, and distributed throughout the nation. Over 200 video clips are available as a set of CDs with the option of open captioning for the hearing impaired. Videos are available with Real Media compression for Internet streaming. Some are available in Spanish in QuickTime compression courtesy of the California Occupational Information Coordinating Committee (CACRN). Clips are available to the general public via the Workforce New Jersey Public Information Network (WNJPIN), the state's Internet information portal. The videos are available for download from America's Career Kit (<<http://www.acinet.org/acinet/library.htm?category=1.2>>) or from the National Crosswalk Service Center (<ftp://ftp.xwalkcenter.org/DOWNLOAD/video/>).

Notification of Funding: Periodically, we will make you aware of large grants that have been awarded in Youth Opportunity communities and encourage YO! grantees to connect with the organizations who have received the funding. At the very least, you will be making more individuals/organizations in your community aware of the work that is being done through YO! and in the process, identify natural collaborations that will assist you in the work that you do. Listed below are three large grants that directly impact the work that we are doing with youth.

- *Thirteen projects funded under the Dropout Prevention Dissemination Program from the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education of the U.S Department of Education.* The Dropout Prevention Demonstration Program is a competitive federal grant program aimed at strengthening, expanding, and taking to scale projects that utilize strategies proven effective for preventing students from dropping out of school. Projects located in Alaska, Arizona, Georgia, Iowa, Missouri, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, and Wyoming received awards ranging from \$180,000 to \$492,857. A complete list of project abstracts is available through the U.S. Department of Education's website at www.ed.gov.
- *The Department of Education's Office of Vocational and Adult Education has made awards to five States under the High School Reform State Grants program.* These funds will be used by States in one of two ways: (1) To expand and build upon their own existing high school improvement strategies, or (2) To replicate other high schools' successful reform models. The Department expects that funded strategies and models will build upon research-based practices proven effective in improving secondary school students' academic performance and expanding their opportunities for technical skills training. The following five States received grants of \$997,700 for this three-year program: California Department of Education, Kentucky Department of Education, Maryland State Department of Education, Massachusetts Department of Education, Vermont Department of Education. For more information go to www.ed.gov
- *Schools for a New Society Initiative:* On October 11, the Carnegie Corporation officially announced the list of cities that will receive 5-year implementation grants under their Schools for a New Society Initiative. They are: Boston - Partner: Boston Plan for Excellence, Worcester - Partner: Jacob Hiatt Center at Clark University, Providence - Partner: Rhode Island Children's Crusade for Higher Education, Chattanooga/Hamilton County Schools - Partner: Chattanooga-Hamilton County Public Education Fund, Houston - Partner: Houston Annenberg Challenge and San Diego - Partner: Center for Research on Educational Equity and Teaching Excellence at UCSD Sacramento - Partner: Linking Education and Economic Development in Sacramento. In six of the cities, the lead partner will receive \$8 million over the next 5 years, with a required 100% local match. The seventh city, Houston, will receive \$12 million due to its size. Constancia Warren, Ph.D at the Academy for Education Development, working in collaboration with the Annenberg Institute for School Reform, will

provide technical assistance to the seven cities and convene a learning network where the cities can share and learn from each other.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

BellSouth Foundation Offers Support for College-Going Minorities: From five to eight grantees will receive three-year grants of \$80,000 to \$110,000 each to support campus-based implementation of programs that address Closing the Divide for College-Going Minorities. The foundation's objective is to assist a group of higher education institutions in addressing the obstacles faced by minority students, in particular African Americans and Hispanics, during their undergraduate careers that undermine their ability to persist, succeed, and ultimately graduate within four to six years.

For information on nominating an individual or a program visit their web site at:

<http://www.bellsouthfoundation.org/grants/si/college.html>

Application Deadline: December 7, 2001

Contact: grants.manager@bellsouth.com

American Honda Foundation: Grants of \$10k-\$75k for youth education and job training programs in the fields of math, science, technology, and the environment.

Application Deadline: Deadlines are quarterly

Contact: For more information, contact the American Honda Foundation, Kathryn Carey, P.O. Box 2205, Torrance, CA 90509-2205, 310.781.4090.

PUBLICATIONS/WEB SITES

U.S. Department of Education has a redesigned Web site with new features that include: a reorganization of the information, with multiple paths for getting what you want; customized pages for teachers, principals, parents and families, students, etc.; the capacity for you to personalize the site to your needs; and an improved search function. <http://www.ed.gov>:

Tools for Assessment and Research: The Compendium of Assessment and Research Tools (CART) is a database that provides information on instruments that measure attributes associated with youth development programs. It includes descriptions of research instruments, tools, rubrics, and guides and is intended to assist those who have an interest in studying the effectiveness of service-learning, safe and drug-free schools and communities, and other school-based youth development activities. <http://cart.rmcdenver.com>:

A Student Friendly Web Site: The Pittsburgh Council on Public Education, a local education fund, recently launched this Web site to help students in Pittsburgh with their required high school graduation projects, a state mandate that districts may interpret differently. Most of the information is helpful to high school students anywhere. The Web site includes guidelines, resources, and links for choosing a project, conducting research, organizing information, creating an outline of the work, and writing. <http://www.graduationprojecthelp.org>.

Job Development Essentials: A Guide for Job Developers; This 102-page book from Public/Private Ventures is a how-to guide for experienced job developers and a helpful resource for their managers. It includes checklists, tips, stories, examples, problem-solving strategies, performance assessments, and dozens of strategies from successful job developers. \$29 for single copies. For more information, contact P/PV, 2000 Market St., #600, Philadelphia, PA 19103, 215/557-4400. To order the guide and to view sample pages, go to: <http://www.ppv.org/essentials>.

Speaking the Language of Business: A major challenge for community leaders can be overcoming the barriers of language that may hinder good relationships with corporate representatives. This workbook is designed to help community leaders refine the skills necessary to communicate more effectively with business executives. Prepared by Laufer Green Isaac for the Ford Foundation's Corporate Involvement Initiative, this manual is available from LGI, 11444 West Olympic Blvd., 11th floor, Los Angeles, CA 90064, 310.575.9200, LGI@lauferpr.com.

The *Kidbeat Listserv* is the Casey Journalism Center's online discussion group for news reporters who cover U.S. children and families. This private list supports a collaborative process that enhances reporting about the issues and institutions affecting disadvantaged children and their families. <http://casey.umd.edu/home.nsf>

Leveling the Playing Field--Technology as an Equalizer In Education, Transition to Careers and Daily Life is a summary of forum events that explored the movement toward using technology to assist youth with disabilities. The report shares innovative partnerships between employers and the education and training sectors that use technology to help youth with disabilities make effective transitions in school, to work and through daily life. This can be downloaded at the American Youth Policy Forum's web site <http://www.aypf.org/pubs.htm>

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

November

November 1-3, 2001: Search Institute "Healthy Communities Healthy Youth Conference" in Indianapolis, IN. For more information, visit: www.search-institute.org/hchy.

November 6-8, 2001: Community Service Learning workshop for YO! grantees in Boston, MA. E-mail astom@doleta.gov for more information.

November 13 - 15, 2001: The Juvenile Justice Connection workshop for YO! grantees in Los Angeles, CA. E-mail astom@doleta.gov for more information.

December

December 5-7, 2001: Second Annual Region V Youth Development Conference: Chicago Marriott Downtown Hotel, Chicago, IL. For more information, see <http://www.doleta.gov/regions/reg05/Home/index.cfm>.

December 13-14, 2001: PEPNet Institute, Washington, DC. For more information, go to www.nyec.org

December 16 - 21 in San Diego, California: Youth Opportunity Grants Leadership Institute

2002

January 28 – 30: The Nuts and Bolts of the College Preparation and Admissions Process in Baltimore, MD. See information above

March 20-23, 2002: National Service Learning Conference at the Seattle Convention Center. Applications are available on the NYLC web site at: <http://www.nylc.org/conference2002/>